

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04278 01 OF 02 311916Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 INRE-00 EUR-12 OIC-02 SP-02 L-03 SSO-00

/086 W

-----311955Z 009559 /42

O R 311742Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7803

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMCONSUL MELBORNE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY RIYADH

USUN NEW YORK 4945

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 4278

IO FOR ASST SEC MAYNES; LABOR FOR ILAB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB ILO

SUBJECT: ILO: 63RD SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)

1. SUMMARY: SITUATION IS STILL FLUID AND UNPREDICTABLE
BECAUSE PRINCIPAL DELEGATES HAVE JUST BEGUN TO ARRIVE.
SOUNDINGS BY USDEL AS OF MAY 30 SUSGGEST MANY DELS HAVE
FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL WAIT TO SEE HOW REGIONAL
CAUCUSES GO BEFORE TALING FINAL POSITIONS. ENCOURAGING
POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS ARE (1) DESIRE OF CAPT AMEDUME (GHANA)
(WHO WILL BE ILC PRESIDENT) FOR SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE AND
(2) THE POSSIBILITY THAT USDEL MIGHT ADDRESS REGIONAL MEETINGS.
BIGGEST PROBLEM WE FACE IS GETTING ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL INTO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04278 01 OF 02 311916Z

ILC STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE TO BE DECIDED ON ITS MERITS,
WITHOUT PAYING THE PRICE OF A COMPROMISE "PACKAGE DEAL" DURING
INFORMAL CONSUTLATIONS TO PRESELECT CANDIATES FOR "HONORS
POSITIONS", SECRETARIAT (AT US URGING) IS INISTING THAT
CANDIDATES BE QUALIFIED AND NOT NOMINATED SOLELY ON THE
BASIS OF REGIONAL AFFILIATION. END SUMMARY.

2. CAPT AMEDUME, GHANA LABOR COMMISSIONER WHO IS SLATED TO BE LECTED ILC PRESIDENT, TOLD US HE WANTS A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE AND WILL UNDERTAKE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REGIONAL GROUPS ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND ON THE "HONORS POSITIONS." ON THE LATTER POINT HE ECHOED THE SECRETARIAT BRIEFING BY SAYING HE WANTS QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO SERVE AS COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN. HE SPELLED OUT OUR POSITION ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN DETAIL, ESPECIALLY OUR POSITION ON ARTICLE 17. WE FOCUSED ON OUR DETERMINATION TO HAVE THE SELECTION COMMITTEE REFER THE ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL TO THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE AND ON THE NEED TO HAVE THE ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL DECIDED ON ITS MERITS. AMEDUME WONDERED WHETHER PROGRESS COULD BE MADE IN THE ILC STRUCTURE COMMITTEE ON ARTICLES VII AND XXXVI. WE TOLD HIM BECAUSE EMOTIONS WERE RUNNING HIGH, NO CONSENSUS WAS LIKELY. THUS WE FAVORED INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF STRUCTURE LATE IN THE YEAR, IN THE LATER CONTEXT OF HOW TO IMPROVE THE FUNCTIONING OF THE GOVERNING BODY. AMEDUME'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE U.S. POSITION SHOULD BE HELPFUL DURING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH REGIONAL GROUPS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

3. WE HAD A SUBSTANTIAL EXCHANGE WITH THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AND HIS SENIOR STAFF. HE TRIED AT FIRST TO TAKE THE POSITION THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS CALLED FOR OPPOSITION TO THE ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL ALONG THE LINES OF THE TRIPOLI RESOLUTIONS. HOROWITZ TOLD HIM THAT IF THE ILC FOLLOWED THE TRIPOLI RESOLUTIONS "THE US WOULD BE DRIVEN OUT OF THE ILO. THE TRIPOLI RESOLUTIONS ARE A FORMULA FOR DISASTER." HOROWITZ REMINDED HIM THAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER HAD AGREED IN CAIRO ON THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL BUT WANTED

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04278 01 OF 02 311916Z

FURTHER NEGOTIATION ON THE TEXT. THE AMBASSADOR THEN SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT, WHICH HOROWITZ TURNED DOWN.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04278 02 OF 02 311936Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00
SIL-01 INRE-00 EUR-12 OIC-02 SP-02 L-03 SSO-00

/086 W

-----311940Z 009749 /42

O R 311742Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7804
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMCONSUL MELBORNE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY RIYADH
USUN NEW YORK 4946

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 4278

IO FOR ASST SEC MAYNES; LABOR FOR ILAB

4. THE EGYPTIANS MADE IT CLEAR THEY WANTED TO REOPEN THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S FOLLOWUP TO THE 1974 RESOLUTION TO GET POLITICAL MILEAGE. HOROWITZ POINTED OUT THIS WOULD UNDERCUT THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE ILO THE EGYPTIANS THEN INQUIRED ABOUT OTHER AVENUES IN ILO TO PURSUE CONDITIONS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IT WAS AGREED THE ILO SECRETARIAT WOULD BE A BETTER SOURCE OF ADVICE.

5. THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR SUMMED UP GOE AGREEMENT NOT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ART. 17 PROPOSAL AND SAID THERE WAS A NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION BETWEEN GOE AND THE US ELEGATIONS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED USDEL ADDRESS REGIONAL GROUPS (EGYPT CHAIRS THE G-77) AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04278 02 OF 02 311936Z

6. CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER ARABS HAD BEEN LESS FORTHCOMING. QATAR LABMIN AL ANSARI WAS NOT WELL-INFORMED AND WAS GIVEN FULL BRIEFING ON US POSITION. THIS MAY BE HELPFUL BECAUSE AL ANSARI IS INFLUENTIAL IN ARAB CAUCUSES. HUSSEIN OF KUWAIT LABOR MINISTRY UNDERSTANDS ILO AND US POSITION BUT DEFERS DECISIONS TO KUWAIT LABOR MINISTER WHO HAS NOT YET ARRIVED. WE ARE HOPEING TO ARRANGE PRODUCTIVE TALKS WITH THE SAUDIS.

7. THE BRAZILIANS HAVE SUGGESTED WE TALK TO LATIN GROUP AND WE PLAN A LUNCHEON OR JOINT APPROACH TO KEY COUNTRIES. IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH MEXICAN MISOFF LOBERA (WHO IS STILL WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS) WE HAVE ARGUED US WILL DISACCOIATE ITSELF FROM A TRADEOFF ON ARTICLE 17 FOR AGREEMENT IN STRUCTURE COMMITTEE ON MODIFICATION IN METHOD OF ELECTING ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL (THIS MODIFICATION WAS AGREED TO WITH IMPLEMENTATION

"AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME" BY THE ILC STRUCTURE COMMITTEE LAST YEAR, AND IS BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL OTHER STRUCTURE ISSUES ARE RESOLVED). LOBERA HAS OBVIOUSLY CIRCULATED HIS VIEWS AND WE HAVE REITERATED TO THE SECRETARIAT AND TO OTHER DELS THAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT A LINKAGE BETWEEN ARTICLE 17 AND STRUCTURE. THE CHILEANS HAVE TOLD US LOBERA HAS REPORTED TO THEM AND OTHER LATINS THAT THE US HAD REJECTED HIS PROPOSAL, WHICH HE FIRST MADE TO HOROWITZ MAY 27 IN INFORMAL CONVERSATION.

8. IN IMEC (INDUSTRIALIZED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES) CONSULTATIONS, WE HAVE TACIT AGREEMENT TO TEST THE WATERS IN THE THIRD WORLD ON ARTICLE 17 BEFORE ATTEMPTING IN-DEPTH CONSULTATION OURSELVES, AND WE HAVE AGREED ON THE NEED TO FILL AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE FIVE SENSITIVE COMMITTEES (SELECTION, STANDING ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS, AND STRUCTURE) WITH WESTERN REPS. ACIMI (IRAN) HAS ASIAN GROUP SUPPORT FOR STRUCTURE BUT THERE IS ALSO LATIN AND AFRICAN INTEREST. (MAINWARING (CANADA) HAS AGREED TO STAND FOR STANDING ORDERS OR SELECTIONS. WE HOPE EUROPEANS WILL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04278 02 OF 02 311936Z

PROVIDE TWO GOOD CANDIDATES FOR TWO OF SENSITIVE COMMITTEES AND, TLTHOUGH THE ODDS ARE NOT GOOD, WE ARE TRYING TO PERUSADE THE ASIANS TO NOMINATE COOK (AUSTRALIA) FOR SELECTIONS. AS A CONSEQUENCE OF DISCUSSIONS WITH USDEL THE SECRETARIAT (DDG BOLIN AND LEGAL ADVISER WOLF) IS INSISTING THE REGIONAL GROUPS FOCUS ON NAMING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES AND NOT JUST REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES. THIS IS IN CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR'S PRE-CONFERENCE INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS TO FILL THESE POSTS. SORENSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA04278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770193-0702
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977054/aaaaacoz.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2dfcc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2452089
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO: 63RD SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)
TAGS: ELAB, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2dfcc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009